

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 12, 15, 16 and 19 as indicated below.

1. (Twice Amended) A stent, comprising:

a structural support comprising an outer surface that is roughened or patterned and having a first unexpanded configuration and a second expanded configuration; and

a polymeric film or sheet or tube that overlays the structural support, the polymeric film or sheet or tube having a first end and a second end, the first end attached to the structural support and wrapped around the structural support such that a first layer and second layer are formed, the second layer overlapping the first end when the structural support is in the unexpanded configuration, and wherein the polymeric film or sheet or tube is retained to the structural support by the roughened or patterned outer surface and fills in gaps in the roughened or patterned outer surface such that the exterior surface of the stent is smooth.

12. (Twice Amended) A system for retaining a polymeric film or sheet or tube having a first end and a second end on a stent, comprising a roughened or a patterned outer surface on the stent wherein the polymeric film or sheet or tube is retained to the stent by the roughened or patterned outer surface and is wrapped around the stent such that a first layer and second layer are formed, the second layer overlapping the first end and the film or sheet or tube filling in gaps in the stent such that the exterior of the stent is smooth.

15. (Twice Amended) A method for adhering a polymeric sheet to a stent structural member, comprising:

providing a stent structural member with an outer surface;

providing a polymeric sheet or tube having a first end and a second end;

roughening or patterning the outer surface of the stent structural member with a raised textured design; and

retaining the polymeric sheet or tube on the stent structural member with the roughened or patterned outer surface and wrapping the sheet or tube around the structural member such that

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10 a first layer and second layer are formed, the second layer overlapping the first end and the polymeric sheet or tube fills gaps in the roughened or patterned outer surface to form a smooth exterior surface.

16. (Amended) A stent assembly, comprising:

a structural member with an outer surface that is roughened or texturized and having a first unexpanded configuration and a second expanded configuration; and

5 a polymeric sleeve wherein the polymeric sleeve has a first end and a second end, the first end retained to the structural member by the roughened or texturized surface, and wrapped around the structural member such that a first layer and second layer are formed, the second layer overlapping the first end when the structural member is in the unexpanded configuration.

19. (Amended) A stent assembly, comprising:

5 a structural member with an outer surface that is roughened or textured and having a first unexpanded configuration and a second expanded configuration; and

5 a polymeric sheet wherein the polymeric sheet has a first end and a second end, the first end retained to the structural member by the roughened or textured surface, and wrapped around the structural member such that a first layer and second layer are formed, the second layer overlapping the first end when the structural member is in the unexpanded configuration.